

Message Text

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R 301555 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5401

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 BONN 07754

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: GW, GE, PGOV

SUBJECT: INNER- GERMAN RELATIONS: ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS
IN PRACTICAL SPHERE

SUMMARY: IN ADDITION TO DEALING WITH QUESTIONS RELATED
TO UN ENTRY, TODAY' S BAHR- KOHL MEETING WILL PROBABLY
ALSO GIVE FURTHER CONSIDERATION TO PLANS FOR NEGOTIATION
OF FOLLOW- UP ARRANGEMENTS PROVIDED FOR IN THE BASIC
TREATY. FORMAL TALKS HAVE ALREADY BEGUN IN THREE FIELDS
AND MORE ARE CERTAIN TO COME. PLANNING IS ALSO CONTINU-
ING ON THE WEST GERMAN SIDE FOR OPENING OF THE FRG PER-
MANENT REPRESENTATION IN EAST BERLIN, BUT THERE CONTINUES
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TO BE NO INDICATION OF READINESS BY THE GDR TO DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT UNTIL AFTER THE BASIC TREATY HAS ENTERED INTO FORCE. THE QUESTIONS OF INCLUSION OF WEST BERLIN IS LIKELY TO PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN MOST OF THE DISCUSSIONS
END SUMMARY.

L. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS PLACED A GOOD DEAL OF IMPORTANCE ON THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE FRG AND GDR IN PRACTICAL FIELDS WHICH ARE FORESEEN IN A SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL TO ARTICLE 7 OF THE BASIC TREATY. WHILE THE BASIC TREATY ITSELF WAS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE THE POLITICAL BASIS FOR INCREASED TIES BETWEEN THE TWO GERMAN STATES, THE FRG SEES THE PRACTICAL IMPROVEMENTS WHICH WILL HOPEFULLY RESULT FROM THESE VARIOUS TALKS AS PROVIDING A CONCRETE DEMONSTRATION THAT ITS CONCEPT OF INNER- GERMAN RELATIONS CAN IN FACT SUCCEED IN BRIDGING THE DIVISIONS BETWEEN THE FRG AND GDR. AS DESCRIBED IN THE SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL, THE TALKS ARE SCHEDULED TO COVER INNER-GERMAN COOPERATION IN FIELDS WHERE CONTACTS ARE USUALLY A ROUTINE MATTER BETWEEN SOVEREIGN STATES WITH A NORMAL RELATIONSHIP WITH EACH OTHER. HOWEVER, THE DIVISIONS BETWEEN THE TWO GERMAN SIDES HAVE GROWN SO DEEP THAT NEW ARRANGEMENTS ARE NECESSARY TO ESTABLISH THE RUDIMENTARY BASIS OF TIES IN AREAS SUCH AS LEGAL ASSISTANCE, HEALTH AND WELFARE, AND MONETARY PAYMENTS.

2. FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEGUN IN THREE FIELDS LISTED IN THE SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL TO ARTICLE 7: A) POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS; B) SPORTS; AND C) HEALTH AND WELFARE. OF THESE, THE POSTAL NEGOTIATIONS HAVE ADVANCED THE FURTHEST; THE FOURTH NEGOTIATING SESSION WAS HELD IN BONN ON MAY 17, ALTHOUGH DISCUSSIONS ARE STILL AT THE STAGE OF CONSIDERING BASIC CONCEPTS. BASED ON A DRAFT IT PRESENTED IN MARCH 1972, THE GDR IS ATTEMPTING TO MOVE IN THE DIRECTION OF A STANDARD INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT, WITH MINIMUM ATTENTION BEING PAID TO THE PECULIARITIES OF THE INNER- GERMAN RELATIONSHIP. THE NEXT ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE HELD DURING THE FIRST HALF OF JULY IN EAST BERLIN. THE FULL REPORT OF THE MAY 17 NEGOTIATING SESSION IS BEING POUCHED TO THE DEPARTMENT AND

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INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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4. TALKS HAVE ALSO CONTINUED AT A LOWER LEVEL ON SPECIFIC ITEMS PROVIDED FOR IN THE GENERAL TRAFFIC TREATY AND THE BASIC TREATY. FOR EXAMPLE, ON MAY 10, 1973, THE GERMAN ASSOCIATION OF AUTOMOBILE INSURERS FROM THE FRG AND THE GDR STATE INSURANCE ENTITY CONCLUDED AN AGREEMENT ON AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY INSURANCE TO REPLACE AN EXISTING ACCORD SIGNED IN 1958. THIS AGREEMENT WAS CONCLUDED WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF ARTICLE 27 OF THE GTT.

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5. ONGOING TALKS STEMMING FROM THE BASIC TREATY HAVE INCLUDED DELIBERATIONS OF THE MIXED- BORDER COMMISSION PROVIDED FOR IN ARTICLE 3 OF THAT ACCORD, DISCUSSIONS OF MODALITIES FOR THE " SMALL BORDER TRAFFIC" FORESEEN IN LETTERS EXCHANGED AT THE TIME OF SIGNATURE OF THE BASIC TREATY, AND DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING WORKING CONDITIONS FOR JOURNALISTS WHICH WAS ALSO THE SUBJECT OF AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS. SATISFACTORY CONCLUSION OF THE LATTER TALKS HAS THUS FAR BEEN BLOCKED BY REFUSAL OF THE BONN FOREIGN PRESS ASSOCIATION TO AUTHORIZE MEMBERSHIP FOR EAST GERMAN JOURNALISTS STATIONED IN THE FRG (SEE BONN A-92). THE SITUATION WAS MADE SOMEWHAT MORE CRITICAL ON MAY 27 WHEN THE FOREIGN PRESS ASSOCIATION DEFEATED A MOTION TO ALTER THE BY- LAWS IN A WAY WHICH

WOULD HAVE MADE POSSIBLE MEMBERSHIP BY THE GDR REPS.
SINCE JOURNALISTS WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF EITHER THE
DOMESTIC FEDERAL PRESS ASSOCIATION (WHICH GDR JOURNALISTS
REFUSE TO JOIN) OR THE FOREIGN PRESS ASSOCIATION ARE NOT
ALLOWED TO ASK QUESTIONS AT GOVERNMENT PRESS CONFERENCES,
THE GDR WOULD HAVE AN EXCUSE FOR NOT BEING FORTHCOMING
TO FRG JOURNALISTS UNTIL THE MATTER IS CLEARED UP.
HOWEVER, A GOVERNMENT PRESS SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED IN BONN
ON MAY 29 THAT DURING A DISCUSSION WITH A REP OF THE
FEDERAL PRESS AND INFORMATION OFFICE, THE DEPUTY CHIEF
OF THE PRESS DEPARTMENT IN THE GDR FOREIGN MINISTRY,
GUENTER MEYER, HAD GIVEN ASSURANCES THAT DESPITE THE
NEGATIVE VOTE BY THE FOREIGN PRESS ASSOCIATION, THE GDR
WOULD DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO FULFILL THE ARRANGEMENTS
MADE IN CONNECTION WITH THE BASIC TREATY. THE EAST
GERMANS MAY, THEREFORE, HAVE DECIDED THAT IT IS IN THEIR
INTEREST TO BE MORE COOPERATIVE ON TREATMENT OF
JOURNALISTS DESPITE DIFFICULTIES BEING EXPERIENCED IN
BONN.

6. ONE AREA WHERE THE FRG CONTINUES TO PUSH FOR RAPID
SOLUTION IS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FRG AND GDR PERMANENT
MISSIONS IN BONN AND EAST BERLIN. AS THE EMBASSY HAS
REPORTED, THE FRG WISHES TO HEAD OFF GDR ATTEMPTS TO
PLACE THESE MISSIONS ON THE SAME BASIS AS NORMAL
EMBASSIES. THE HOPE IS THAT BY REFUSING TO MOVE FOR-
WARD ON UN MEMBERSHIP, GDR AGREEMENT TO SA
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OF THE UN ENTRY PROCESS.

7. IN THE MEANTIME, A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF PLANNING FOR
OPENING OF THE MISSIONS HAS CONTINUED. FONOFF REPS
TELL US THAT BAHR INSPECTED A PROPERTY ON UNTER DEN
LINDEN DURING THE MAY 16 DISCUSSIONS WITH KOHL, AND
THAT GDR REPS HAVE BEEN CONDUCTING SIMILAR INVESTIGA-
TIONS IN BONN. THE FONOFF SAYS THAT IT IS NOW MORE OR
LESS CERTAIN THAT FORMER " DER SPIEGEL " CHIEF EDITOR
GUENTER GAUS WILL BE NAMED HEAD OF THE FRG REPRESENTA-
TION AND THAT IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT FORMER " NEUES
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DEUTSCHLAND" CHIEF EDITOR JOACHIM HERRMANN WILL BE
NAMED CHIEF OF THE GDR OFFICE IN BONN. THE GDR IS SAID
TO BE CONSIDERING SUPPLEMENTING HERRMANN' S STATUS BY
ALSO NAMING HIM AMBASSADOR TO LUXEMBOURG. FEDERAL OFFI-
CIALS HAVE REACTED CALMLY TO SUCH REPORTS, SAYING
THAT HERRMANN' S STATUS IN LUXEMBOURG IS A MATTER TO BE
SETTLED BETWEEN THE GDR AND THE GOL.

8. EMBASSY COMMENT: DESPITE THE TUGGING AND HAULING
ON THE VARIOUS MATTERS AT ISSUE, THE WILL DOES SEEM TO
EXIST ON BOTH SIDES TO ATTEMPT TO ACHIEVE SOME SATIS-
FACTORY SETTLEMENT OF PRACTICAL PROBLEMS THROUGH NEO-
TIATION. IT CAN THUS BE EXPECTED THAT THE NUMBER OF SUCH
INNER- GERMAN NEGOTIATIONS WILL INCREASE RELATIVELY
RAPIDLY AT VARIOUS LEVELS IN COMING MONTHS.

9. THE TASK FOR THE THREE ALLIED POWERS IN OBSERVING
THIS PROCESS WILL BE TO ASSURE THAT NOTHING IS
AGREED WHICH WILL AFFECT OUR RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES
OR OUR POSITION IN BERLIN. FORTUNATELY, WITH THE EXCEP-
TION OF THE QUESTION OF INCLUSION OF BERLIN, FEW OF THE
SUBJECTS UNDER DISCUSSION WILL AFFECT OUR POSITION TO
THE SAME EXTENT AS THE GENERAL TRAFFIC TREATY OR THE
POSTAL AGREEMENT WHICH IS NOW UNDER NEGOTIATION.
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